

**August 5, 2002**

**In the Matter of Taxicab Driver's  
License #04242, held by James  
L. Cassi, 6985 County Rd 33  
New Germany, MN 55367**

**Findings of Fact  
Conclusion and  
Recommendations**

**This matter came before the Licenses and Consumer Services Division (LCS) during a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) investigative meeting held June 6, 2002 in room 1-C of City Hall. Mr. Cassi was present as well as License Inspector Vu Tran. Mr. Cassi chose to forego a hearing and stipulate to the following. Based on the evidence presented at the meeting, the Licenses and Consumer Services Division makes the following:**

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1) Mr. Cassi is currently a holder of Minneapolis Taxicab Driver's License #04242 and was driving Red & White taxicab 246.
- 2) On June 3, 2002 Mr. Cassi parked his taxicab unattended in the bus stop outside of Rick's Cabaret. Police Officer Johnson was nearly done with writing the citation for that offense, when Mr. Cassi came out of Rick's Cabaret.
- 3) When the officer approached Mr. Cassi to hand him the citation, he told the officer that he was inside Rick's Cabaret to obtain remuneration in the form of \$6.00 for each passenger that he drops off there.
- 4) The officer asked to see his trip sheets to verify that indeed he had a cab fare here. When Mr. Cassi fail to give the officer the information he had requested, the officer issued him another citation for no trip sheets.
- 5) After receiving this second citation, Mr. Cassi lost his professionalism, became extremely angry, started using profanity and told the officer that he would see him in court.
- 6) Mr. Cassi became so irate and disobedient that the officer had to place him in the back seat of his squad car.
- 7) Mr. Cassi was not arrested, so was allowed to get his belongings out of the cab before it was towed.
- 8) Mr. Cassi came to see Inspector Tran the morning after this incident occurred to explain what had happened. He admitted it was wrong to having lost his temper toward the police officer. However he added by saying that the police officer issued three

additional citations and towing his cab only because he had lost his temper. He has learned his lesson not to raise his voice at a police officer.

- 9) A review of Mr. Cassi's taxicab file yielded he had been driving taxicab since 1997 without any written complaints.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

1. For parking his taxicab unattended in a bus stop, Mr. Cassi was cited for violation of Minneapolis Ordinance section 169.00.
2. For refusing to comply with a police officer while in the performance of their duties, Mr. Cassi violated Minneapolis Taxicab Ordinance section 341.250(i).
3. For not having a current tripsheet, the officer cited him for violation of Minneapolis Taxicab Ordinance 341.240.
4. For wearing a sweatshirt with a ragged top, he was cited for violation of Minneapolis Ordinance 341.130, which required a shirt with a collar.
5. For failure to display his taxicab driver's license, he was cited for violation of Minneapolis Ordinance 341.400. He had it tucked inside his clipboard.
6. Mr. Cassi's court date was on June 26, 2002. Four of the five citations were dismissed. He paid the fine for the fifth citation on July 11, 2002.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is the recommendation of the Division of Licenses and Consumer Services that:

- 1) Mr. Cassi will pay an administrative fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) to the City of Minneapolis Finance Department.
- 2) Mr. Cassi of Red & White Taxicab Service Company will be called out-of-service for seven days. Since the police confiscated his taxicab driver's license on the date of the offense, he has not

been driving taxicab for seven days already. These seven days out of work, will be credited.

**I have read the Technical Advisory Committee's Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Recommendations. I understand and agree to the recommendations contained herein and understand this agreement is subject to the approval of the City Council. I further agree that any violation of this agreement may result in the suspension or revocation of my Minneapolis Taxicab Driver's License and or Vehicle License.**

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**Signature, Mr. James L. Cassi**

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**Date**

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**Witness**

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**Date**